

REDLINED VERSION

**LOCAL RULES
OF THE
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

Proposed: **February 11, 2004**

PREAMBLE

The Bankruptcy Local Rules of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana are the result of a cooperative effort of the district court, the bankruptcy court, and members of the bankruptcy bar of the Eastern District of Louisiana.

At its March 1996 session, the Judicial Conference prescribed a uniform numbering system for bankruptcy local rules that is based on and tracks the relevant provisions of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure. Accordingly, the Bankruptcy Local Rules have been renumbered according to their corresponding Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure. The rules may be cited as "LBR _____."

~~The rules have been adopted by a majority vote of the judges of the District effective as of April 15, 1997.~~

The revisions to these rules do not change requirements already in place at the Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. They are designed to: (1) put the electronic filing procedures already in place into local rule form; (2) make changes related to privacy in order to comply with the policy of the Judicial Conference of the United States and amendments to the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure that became effective on December 1, 2003; and (3) make non-substantive, stylistic changes to the local rules to make them clearer.

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**PART I - COMMENCEMENT OF CASE;
PROCEEDINGS RELATING TO PETITION AND ORDER FOR RELIEF**

RULE 1002-1 - PETITION - GENERAL

1002-1 Signatures

Under Electronic Case Filing (“ECF”) and the Case Management (“CM”) system, original documents are no longer routinely accepted for filing. The requirement that petitions, verifications, resolutions, declarations, etc., be signed is met by an electronic signature. An electronic signature is considered to be the original signature upon the filed document for all purposes under the Bankruptcy Code, relevant federal and state statutes, and applicable federal rules. The verification or declaration upon a petition is governed by Rule 9011-4 of these rules.

RULE 1006-1 - FEES – INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS

1006-1(A) Advance Payment Required

The Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court¹ ~~shall~~ **is** not ~~be~~ required to file any paper or to render any service for which a fee is legally collectible unless the fee for the particular service is paid in advance or in installment payments authorized by court order.

1006-1(B) Effect of Dismissal of Case

If a case is dismissed voluntarily or for cause prior to payment of the entire filing fee, the debtor must pay, within ten days of the date of dismissal, whatever fee remains due at the time the case is dismissed.

¹ All references to “the Clerk” in these rules shall mean the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court, unless otherwise indicated.

RULE 1007-2 MAILING – LIST OR MATRIX

1007-2 Mailing Matrix

~~Anyone~~ The debtor or attorney filing a petition ~~shall~~ **must** file a complete mailing matrix including the correct name and address of all known creditors and other parties in interest. The mailing matrix ~~shall~~ **must** conform to the requirements established by the clerk.

RULE 1015-1 - JOINT ADMINISTRATION/CONSOLIDATION

1015-1 Joint Administration or Substantively Consolidated Cases

(a) ***Caption.*** If the court orders joint administration or substantive consolidation of two or more cases, all pleadings in any of the cases ~~shall~~ **must** state the names and numbers of all cases, with the name and docket number of the lowest numbered case listed first, unless otherwise ordered by the court. The caption of the lowest numbered case will serve as the identifying caption during the pendency of the joint administration or consolidation and will continue to be used even if that particular case is closed.

(b) ***Consolidated Mailing Matrix.*** Upon joint administration or consolidation, the debtor (or, in an adversary proceeding, the plaintiff) ~~shall~~ **must**, within ten days of the entry of ~~such~~ **the** order, file with the clerk a consolidated mailing matrix comprising a total mailing list of all interested parties in all the jointly administered and consolidated cases, without duplication. The mailing matrix ~~shall~~ **must** comply with Rule 1007-2 of these ~~local~~ rules.

**PART II - OFFICERS AND ADMINISTRATION; NOTICES;
MEETINGS; EXAMINATIONS; ELECTIONS; ATTORNEYS AND ACCOUNTANTS**

RULE 2004-1 - DEPOSITIONS AND EXAMINATIONS

2004-1 Motions for Rule 2004 Examinations

In addition to other rules applicable to all motions, a motion for an order for a ~~Bankruptcy~~ Rule 2004 examination must state that the movant has made reasonable efforts to arrange a mutually satisfactory date, time and place for the examination and that the entity or individual to be examined has agreed to the schedule or has refused to cooperate in establishing a schedule. **Only motions that comply with this requirement will be granted.** ~~A motion and order for a 2004 examination which does not make such a declaration will not be granted by the court.~~

RULE 2007.1-1 - TRUSTEES AND EXAMINERS (CHAPTER 11)

2007.1-1 Election of Trustee in Chapter 11 Reorganization Case

(a) *Request for an Election.* A request to convene a meeting of creditors for the purpose of electing a trustee in a Chapter 11 reorganization case ~~shall~~ **must** be filed and transmitted to the United States trustee in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 5005 within the time prescribed by Section 1104(b) of the Bankruptcy Code. Pending court approval of the person elected, a person appointed trustee under Section 1104(d) ~~shall~~ **will** serve as trustee.

(b) *Manner of Election and Notice.* An election of a trustee under Section 1104(b) of the Code ~~shall~~ **will** be conducted in the manner provided in Bankruptcy Rules 2003(b)(3) and 2006. Notice of the meeting of creditors convened under Section 1104(b) ~~shall~~ **must** be given in the manner and within the time provided for notices under Bankruptcy Rule 2002(a). A proxy for the purpose of voting in the election may be solicited by a committee appointed under Section 1102 of the Code and by any other party entitled to solicit a proxy under Bankruptcy Rule 2006.

(c) Application for Approval of Appointment and Resolution of Disputes. Unless there is an unresolved dispute as to the election, ~~If it is not necessary to resolve a dispute regarding the election of the trustee or if all disputes have been resolved by the court,~~ the United States trustee ~~shall~~ will promptly appoint the person elected to be trustee and file an application for approval of the appointment of the elected person under Bankruptcy Rule 2007.1(b), except that the application does not have to contain names of parties in interest with whom the United States trustee has consulted. If it is necessary to resolve a dispute regarding the election, the United States trustee ~~shall~~ must promptly file a report informing the court of the dispute. If no motion for the resolution of the dispute is filed within 10 days after the date of the creditors' meeting called under Section 1104(b), a person appointed by the United States trustee in accordance with Section 1104(d) of the Code and approved in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 2007.1(b) ~~shall~~ will serve as trustee.

RULE 2014-1 - EMPLOYMENT OF PROFESSIONALS

2014-1 Form of Certificate of Disinterested Status

An attorney, accountant, or other professional ~~person~~ seeking appointment ~~shall~~ must file ~~an affidavit or certification with the clerk which shall~~ certify that the professional person to be employed (a) does not hold or represent an interest adverse to the estate and (b) is disinterested. An application from a trustee seeking to employ a professional person ~~shall~~ must also certify that the professional person is not related to the trustee by affinity or consanguinity within the third degree as determined by the common law, and is not in a step or adoptive relationship within such degree.

RULE 2015-2 DEBTOR-IN-POSSESSION DUTIES

2015-2(A) Duties of Debtor in Chapter 11

In addition to the duties and obligations established in the Bankruptcy Code and Rules, the duties of the debtor-in-possession ~~shall be as set~~ **are set** forth in a court order ~~that is~~ issued after the filing of the case.

2015-2(B) Monthly Reports

~~Monthly reports are to be~~ **The debtor-in-possession must** filed **monthly reports** with the court in a form acceptable to the United States Trustee, and **serve the monthly reports on the United States Trustee**. ~~The United States trustee shall be served with monthly reports at the same time they are filed with the court.~~

RULE 2016-1 - COMPENSATION OF PROFESSIONALS

2016-1(A) Award of Attorneys' Fees

(a) A request for attorneys' fees ~~shall~~ **must** comply with LBR 9013-1 concerning motions.

In addition, it ~~shall~~ **must** include the following:

1. a title stating whether ~~this~~ **it** is the first, second, etc., or final application for compensation and on whose behalf it is filed;
2. the date the petition was filed;
3. the date the court authorized the employment of the applicants;
4. any retainer received by the applicant;
5. the date of and amount approved in any prior request;
6. a list, if any, of extraordinary circumstances involved in the case;
7. the period covered by the request;
8. the amount requested for legal services; and
9. the amount requested for expenses.

(b) ~~Attached to the request shall be exhibits which include the following:~~ **The applicant must attach the following exhibits to the request:**

1. A listing of all the time for which compensation is requested, whether it be attorney, paralegal or law clerk time, ~~The list should show~~ the amount of time devoted to the case on each date, and the legal services performed in that time.
2. A summary sheet ~~which~~ **that** shows:
 - a. the amount of time spent by each attorney and the hourly rate;
 - b. the amount of time spent by law clerks and the hourly rate; and
 - c. the amount of time spent by paralegals and the hourly rate.
3. A summary sheet ~~which~~ **that** itemizes **all** expenses, including copies, telephone charges, courier services, witness fees, postage, mileage, etc.

2016-1(B) Award of Fees to Other Professionals

A request for compensation for professionals other than attorneys ~~shall~~ **must** comply with LBR 2016-1(A) to the extent possible.

RULE 2083-1 - CHAPTER 13 – GENERAL

2083-1 Chapter 13 – Additional Duties of Trustee and Debtor

In addition to the duties prescribed by the Bankruptcy Code and the Bankruptcy Rules, the trustee and debtor ~~shall~~ **must do the following:** ~~perform the following duties, respectively:~~

(a) Trustee's Duty. The trustee ~~shall~~ **must** submit to the debtor and the debtor's counsel the allowance of claim form as soon as practicable after the expiration of the last day for filing claims.

(b) Debtor's Duties:

1. The debtor ~~shall~~ **must** provide all tax refunds to the trustee. ~~If the debtor is in arrears in plan payments, the refund will be applied to the plan. If the plan payments are current, the trustee will return the refund to the debtor within 20 days of receipt, and~~ **The debtor must move the court for use of the funds within 20 days of receipt of the funds by the Chapter 13 Trustee if the debtor wishes to receive any portion of the tax refund.**

2. When a claim is bifurcated (partially secured and partially unsecured), the amount that is secured and the amount of the claim that is unsecured ~~shall~~ **must** be listed separately in the schedules and plan.

RULE 2090-1 - ATTORNEYS – ADMISSION TO PRACTICE

2090-1(A) Roll of Attorneys

~~The bar of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana shall consist of every member in good standing of the bar of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, and all such members are entitled to practice before the Bankruptcy Court.~~

Every member in good standing of the bar of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana is entitled to practice before this court.

~~2090-1(D)~~ 2090-1(B) Attorney Representation

~~In all cases before this court, a~~**Any party who does not appearing** in proper person must be represented by a member of the bar of this court, except as set forth below.

~~2090-1(E)~~ 2090-1(C) Visiting Attorneys

~~Any member in good standing of the bar of any court of the United States or of the highest court of any state and who is eligible to become a member of the bar of this court may, upon written motion of counsel of record who is a member of the bar of this court, by *ex parte* order, be permitted to appear and participate as co-counsel in a particular case.~~

Any member in good standing of the bar of any court of the United States or of the highest court of any state may be permitted to appear and participate in a case or proceeding upon written

motion. The motion must have attached to it a certificate by the presiding judge or clerk of the highest court of the state, or court of the United States, where the applicant has been ~~so~~ admitted to practice showing that the applicant attorney has been ~~so~~ admitted in such court and that ~~he or she~~ **he/she** is in good standing. The applicant attorney ~~shall~~ **must** state under oath whether any disciplinary proceedings or criminal charges have been instituted against him/her and, if so, ~~shall~~ **must** disclose full information about the proceedings or charges and the results.

Unless otherwise ordered by the court, it is not necessary for any attorney entitled to practice before the court or permitted to appear and participate in a case or proceeding to associate with or to designate an attorney with an office in this district upon whom notices, rulings, and communications may be served.

~~An attorney thus permitted to appear may participate in a particular action or proceeding in all respects, except that all documents requiring signature of counsel for a party may not be signed solely by such attorney, but must bear the signature also of local counsel with whom he is associated.~~

~~Local counsel shall be responsible to the court at all stages of the proceedings.~~

~~Designation of the visiting attorney as "Trial Attorney" pursuant to LBR 9010-1 herein shall not relieve the local counsel of the responsibilities imposed by this rule.~~

~~2090-1(F)~~ Waiver by Court Order of Requirements for Local Counsel

~~———— In any case or proceeding, a counsel who is ineligible to become a member of the bar of this court under LBR 2090-1(B) may be authorized by court order to appear and act for any party without joinder of local co-counsel when it is shown that:~~

- ~~———— (a) The party would suffer hardship by joinder of local counsel; and~~
- ~~———— (b) The obligations and duties of local counsel in the particular litigation will be fulfilled.~~

~~2090-1(G)~~ 2090-1(D) Familiarity with and Compliance with Rules

Everyone who appears in court in proper person and every attorney permitted to practice in this court ~~shall~~ **must** be familiar with these rules. Willful failure to comply with any of them, or a false certificate of compliance, ~~shall be~~ **is** cause for such disciplinary action as the court may see fit **to impose**, after notice and hearing.

~~2090-1(H)~~ Familiarity with the Record

~~———— Counsel for a party in any matter in this court shall be familiar with the substance of all documents filed in the case and, if the case is consolidated with one or more other cases, shall be familiar with the record of the consolidated cases. It is the responsibility of counsel representing a party joined in a case after its inception, whether by third party complaint or otherwise, or whose case is consolidated with one or more pending cases, to become familiar with court orders and with other documents previously filed in the record.~~

~~2090-1(I)~~ 2090-1(E) Additional Counsel

Where counsel has appeared for any party, ~~other~~ **additional** counsel may appear for the same party only:

- (a) ~~U~~**u**pon motion of counsel of record for that party, or motion consented to by counsel of record; or

- (b) ~~U~~pon motion, after counsel for the party has been permitted to withdraw or has died, or is incapacitated or cannot be found; or
- (c) ~~U~~pon motion of a party after notice to counsel of record and an opportunity to be heard.

~~RULE 2090-2 - ATTORNEYS - DISCIPLINE AND DISBARMENT~~

~~2090-2(A) Rules of Conduct~~

~~————— This court hereby adopts and will apply the Rules of Professional Conduct of the Louisiana State Bar Association, as hereafter may be amended from time to time by the Louisiana Supreme Court, except as otherwise provided by a specific rule or general order of the court.~~

~~2090-2(B) Counsel's Failure to Appear~~

~~————— Counsel's failure to appear, or appearing extremely late, for conferences with the court, or for the argument of motions, trial or any other proceeding, causes great inconvenience to the court, opposing counsel and, in some instances, to witnesses. Accordingly, it will be the court's policy to impose costs or sanctions as follows:~~

- ~~————— (a) ——— For failure to appear, or appearing extremely late, at any proceeding before any of the judges when the lawyer has been given timely notice of the conference or hearing, has failed in advance to seek a continuance and has no adequate excuse:~~
 - ~~————— 1. ——— If this is the first time counsel has been delinquent, or if the last time he failed to appear promptly was more than two years ago, he shall be ordered to pay a fee in a reasonable amount to each opposing counsel who has appeared.~~
 - ~~————— 2. ——— If this is the second time, and it is within two years of the first, the lawyer will be required to pay a fee in a reasonable amount to each opposing counsel who has appeared and will, in addition, be cited to show cause before a judge of this court why he should not be suspended from practice for a period of time or subjected to some other form of disciplinary action.~~

~~3. The fee is not to be waived, nor is it to be returned or taken into account on settlement. It is not to be billed or charged to a client in any way.~~

~~(b) For failure without adequate excuse to appear for a trial or a hearing for which witnesses have been summoned, or for unreasonable delay in appearing at such times, the lawyer will be required to show cause why he should not be subject to disciplinary action by the court.~~

~~2090-2(C) Practicing Before Admission or During Suspension~~

~~Any person who exercises in any proceeding in this court any of the privileges of a member of the bar or who pretends to be entitled to do so before admission to the bar of this court, or during disbarment or suspension, is in contempt of court and subject to disciplinary action.~~

RULE 2091-1 - ATTORNEYS – WITHDRAWALS

2091-1 Continuing Representation, Withdrawals, Substitution of Counsel

The original counsel of record ~~shall be~~ **is** held to represent the party for whom he/she appears unless the court permits ~~him/her~~ **that person** to withdraw from the case. Counsel may obtain permission only upon joint motion to substitute counsel or upon a written motion served on opposing counsel, parties entitled to notice, and the client ~~before the court acts~~. If other counsel is not ~~thereby~~ substituted, the motion to withdraw ~~shall~~ **must** contain the present address of the client and the client's telephone number if **available**. The motion ~~shall~~ **must** be served on the client, opposing counsel, and parties entitled to notice by certified mail and ~~shall~~ **must** contain a statement that the client has been notified of all deadlines and ~~pending court appearances~~ **court dates**. If counsel is unable to so certify, counsel ~~shall~~ **must** submit an affidavit stating why service has not been made.

**PART III - CLAIMS AND DISTRIBUTION TO
CREDITORS AND EQUITY INTEREST HOLDERS; PLANS**

RULE 3015-1 - CHAPTER 13 – PLAN

3015-1 Objections to Confirmation

Objections to confirmation must be filed in writing and served on the debtor, the debtor's attorney, and the trustee, ~~at least five~~ **eight calendar** days prior to the confirmation hearing.

RULE 3015-2 - CHAPTER 13 – AMENDMENTS TO PLANS

3015-2 Modification of Plan

(a) *Prior to Confirmation.* ~~At least five days prior to the confirmation hearing,~~ the attorney for the debtor ~~shall~~ **must** send notice of any modification ~~before the plan is confirmed~~ to the trustee and to all creditors affected by the modification. A copy of the notice, including a certificate of mailing, ~~shall~~ **must** be filed with the modification.

(b) *After Confirmation.* ~~The attorney for the party requesting plan modification~~ **after confirmation** must send notice of any **such** request, ~~for plan modification after confirmation,~~ accompanied by a summary of the proposed modification, to the trustee and to all creditors affected by the modification. The notice ~~shall advise~~ **must state** that any objections to the proposed modification ~~shall~~ **are to** be filed by written pleading with the court and the trustee within 20 days of mailing of the notice and that a hearing will be held on a specific date thereafter. A copy of the notice, including a certificate of mailing, ~~shall~~ **must** be filed with the proposed modification. After hearing, the court may approve the plan as modified. ~~All~~ **Any** motions for modification of the Chapter 13 plan ~~which~~ **that** do not adversely affect the creditors may be authorized by *ex parte* order.

RULE 3015-3 - CHAPTER 13 – PAYMENTS

3015-3 Payments

(a) *Post-Confirmation Payments.* Upon confirmation, payments ~~shall~~ **must** be made to the trustee, except when the plan authorizes direct payment to a secured creditor. Failure to comply may result in dismissal.

(b) *Payment on Arrearages.* Unless the plan provides or the court orders otherwise, all pre-petition arrearages owed to secured creditors ~~shall~~ **must** be paid over 36 months.

(c) *Form of Payment.* All payments to the trustee **by debtors** ~~shall~~ **must** be in the form of a money order or certified check.

~~RULE 3016-1 - CHAPTER 11 – SMALL BUSINESS~~

RULE 3017-2 - DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - SMALL BUSINESS

~~3016-1~~ **3017-2 Election to Be Considered a Small Business in a Chapter 11 Reorganization Case**

(a) *Statement.* In a Chapter 11 reorganization case, a debtor that is a small business may elect to be considered ~~a small business~~ **as such** by filing a written statement of election no later than 60 days after the date of the order for relief or by a later date as the court, for cause, may fix.

(b) *Approval of Disclosure Statement.*

1. *Conditional Approval.* If the debtor ~~is a small business and has made a~~ **the** timely election ~~to be considered a small business in a Chapter 11 case,~~ the court may, on application of the plan proponent, conditionally approve a disclosure statement filed in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 3016. On or before conditional approval of the disclosure statement, the court ~~shall~~ **will**:
 - a. fix a time within which the holders of claims and interests may accept or reject the plan;
 - b. fix a time for filing objections to the disclosure statement;

- c. fix a date for the hearing on final approval of the disclosure statement to be held if a timely objection is filed; and
 - d. fix a date for the hearing on confirmation.
- 2. *Application of Bankruptcy Rule 3017.* If the disclosure statement is conditionally approved, Bankruptcy Rules 3017(a), (b), (c) and (e) do not apply. Conditional approval of the disclosure statement is considered approval of the disclosure statement for the purpose of applying Bankruptcy Rule 3017(d).
- 3. *Objections and Hearings on Final Approval.* Notice of the time fixed for filing objections and the hearing to consider final approval of the disclosure statement ~~shall~~ **must** be given in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 2002 and may be combined with notice of the hearing on confirmation of the plan. Objections to the disclosure statement ~~shall~~ **must** be filed, transmitted to the United States trustee and served on the debtor, ~~the~~ **any** trustee, any committee appointed under the Bankruptcy Code, and any other entity designated by the court at any time before final approval of the disclosure statement or by an earlier date as the court may fix. If a timely objection to the disclosure statement is filed, the court ~~shall~~ **will** hold a hearing to consider final approval before or combined with the hearing on confirmation of the plan.

RULE 3018-2 - ACCEPTANCE/REJECTION OF PLANS

3018-2(A) Certification of Acceptances and Rejections of Chapter 11 Plans

At least three days prior to the hearing on confirmation, the proponent of a plan ~~shall~~ **must** certify in the form required by the clerk the amount and number of allowed claims of each class accepting or rejecting the plan and the amount of allowed interests of each class accepting or rejecting the plan. The original certification ~~shall~~ **must** be filed with the clerk.

3018-2(B) Ballots

Unless otherwise ordered, all ballots must be filed in hard copy and will be returned to the plan proponent after tabulation and certification of the ballots, and a final order granting or denying confirmation. The tabulation of ballots must be filed electronically.

RULE 3022-1 - FINAL REPORT/DECREE (CHAPTER 11)

3022-1 Motion for Final Decree

The proponent of a plan ~~shall~~ **must** file a motion for final decree accompanied by an accounting of plan payments within 30 days of the date the estate has been administered. On motion and order, the court may for good cause extend this date. Failure of the plan proponent to file a motion for final decree and the accompanying accounting of plan payments or a motion for extension of time may result in dismissal, conversion or other appropriate action as the court may order.

PART IV - THE DEBTOR: DUTIES AND BENEFITS

RULE 4001-1 - AUTOMATIC STAY – RELIEF FROM

4001-1 Motions to Lift Stay

In addition to ~~other~~ **the** rules applicable to all motions, Section 362(d) motions asking for relief from the automatic stay ~~shall~~ **must** contain the following:

- (a) A short and plain statement of the facts asserted as grounds for relief and the specific relief requested.
- (b) If the grounds are lack of equity of the debtor in a particular property –
 - 1. the amount of the debt, specifying the amount of principal, interest and any attorneys' fees or other costs claimed to be owed; and
 - 2. the value of the property and the manner in which the valuation was reached.

A generalized statement that there is no equity in the property is insufficient.

PART V - COURTS AND CLERKS

RULE 5003-2 - COURT PAPERS — REMOVAL OF

5003-2 Withdrawal of Files

~~Files in the office of the Clerk may be removed only:~~

~~(a) for the use of the court;~~

~~(b) pursuant to a subpoena from any federal or state court directing their production; or~~

~~(c) with leave of court or permission of the Clerk first obtained.~~

RULE 5005-1 - FILING PAPERS — REQUIREMENTS

5005-1(A) Place of Filing

(a) All ~~filings~~ petitions, motions, pleadings, memoranda of law, or other documents required to be in writing ~~shall must be made~~ filed electronically or at the office of the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court, ~~501 Magazine Street, Room 601~~ **500 Poydras Street, Room B-601**, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70130. All references to "the Clerk" in these rules shall mean the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court, unless otherwise indicated. ~~Filings by facsimile or other electronic means are not permitted.~~

(b) Any party who files an emergency motion, pleading, or objection must advise the judge's chambers staff by phone of the filing.

(c) A mailing matrix in proper format must be submitted with the petition.

5005-1(B) Form of Filing

~~In addition to the requirements of the Bankruptcy Rules, the caption on filings shall also indicate the section (as applicable and after allotment) of the bankruptcy judge~~ **All pleadings filed after allotment of the case must indicate the section of the court to whom which** the case is assigned.

5005-1(C) ECF Passwords

An ECF password is necessary to file any document electronically. Attorneys, creditors, and others may receive ECF passwords to file papers electronically as follows:

(a) *Attorney Password.* An attorney password allows an attorney to electronically file all types of documents. Each attorney admitted to practice in this court must be trained on the ECF system before the attorney will be allowed to have a password. Out of state attorneys authorized to practice in this court may receive training by telephone. The court also recognizes training on the ECF system by other bankruptcy courts. An application for an attorney password will be given to attorneys after they have completed training.

(b) *Creditor/Limited Use Password.* Creditors who are not represented by an attorney may obtain a creditor/limited use password, which allows electronic filing of certain types of documents, including, proofs of claim, documents related to proofs of claim, applications to withdraw unclaimed funds, notices of appearance, and reaffirmation agreements. Creditors who file more than ten claims a year or creditors represented by an attorney must file electronically. **All transfers of claims and assignments of claims must be filed electronically.**

(c) *Obtaining Passwords.* Applications for passwords are available at the court's website: www.laeb.uscourts.gov. The completed application form must be submitted to obtain a password. All applications must be mailed or delivered to: "Systems Department, Attn: ECF System Registration" at the bankruptcy court.

(d) *Notification of Password.* The clerk's office will notify attorneys / creditors of their ECF password by U.S. mail unless the attorneys / creditors make other arrangements.

(e) *Password serves as signature.* The filing of a document in the CM/ECF system by an attorney or creditor who uses the assigned identification name and password constitutes a signature for purposes of Bankruptcy Rule 9011.

5005-1(C)(D) Form of Judgments/Orders

Judgments and/or orders submitted must (1) be on a separate sheet of paper; (2) and shall bear have the caption of the case and, where applicable, the name and number of the adversary proceeding; and (3) include the name and description of the motion.

5005-1(E) Electronic Submission of Orders and Judgments

(a) *E-mail address.* Under the ECF system, all orders must be submitted to the court at each chambers' e-mail address. The following e-mail addresses have been established for each chamber:

orders_Brahney@laeb.uscourts.gov

orders_Brown@leab.uscourts.gov

(b) *Subject line of the e-mail.* The subject line in the e-mail must correspond to the type of order requested as follows:

1. *Ex Parte Orders.* Orders submitted with motions seeking ex parte relief must begin the subject line of the e-mail with the word Ex Parte followed by a space and then the seven digit case number or the six digit adversary number. This should be followed by a space and the chapter number. For example: Ex Parte 03-12345 ch 13 for matters in cases; Ex Parte 03-1234 ch 13 for matters in adversary proceedings.
2. *Expedited orders.* Orders submitted for expedited relief must begin the subject line of the e-mail with the word Expedited followed by a space and then the seven digit case number or six digit adversary proceeding number. This should be followed by a space and the chapter number. For example: Expedited 03-12345 ch 13 for matters in cases; and Expedited 03-1234 ch 13 for matters in adversary proceedings.

3. *Matters Noticed for Hearing.* Orders submitted for matters noticed for hearing must begin the subject line of the e-mail with the date of the hearing, set forth numerically: mm/dd/yy. Two numbers are required for each component of the date. After a space the numerical date must be followed by the seven digit case or six digit adversary number followed by another space and the chapter number. For example 01/09/03 03-12345 ch 13 for matters in cases; 01/09/03-1234 ch 13 for matters in adversary proceedings.

5005-1(F) Privacy

(a) ***Personal Identifiers.*** Except as required by Bankruptcy Rules 1005, 1007(f), and 2002(a)(1) (eff. 12/1/2003) and unless ordered by the court, parties are to refrain from including, or are to partially redact when inclusion is necessary, the following personal data identifiers from papers filed with the court, including any exhibits thereto:

1. ***Social Security Numbers.*** If an individual's social security number must be included in a pleading, only the last four digits of the number should be used.
2. ***Names of minor children.*** If the involvement of a minor child must be mentioned, only the initials of the child should be used.
3. ***Dates of birth.*** If an individual's date of birth must be included in a pleading, only the year should be used.
4. ***Financial Account Numbers.*** If the financial account numbers are relevant, only the last four digits of these numbers should be used.

(b) ***Responsibility.*** The responsibility for redacting personal identifiers rests solely with counsel and the parties. The clerk will not review each pleading or other paper for compliance with this rule.

~~RULE 5005-2 - FILING PAPERS – NUMBER OF COPIES~~

~~5005-2 Number of Copies~~

~~—— In a Chapter 7 or 13 case, an original and two copies of the petition, schedules and statements shall be filed. In a Chapter 11 or 12 case, an original and four copies of the petition, schedules and statements shall be filed. In an adversary proceeding, an original and one copy of the complaint shall be filed.~~

RULE 5005-3 - FILING PAPERS – SIZE OF PAPERS

5005-3 Size of Papers

All papers to be filed in this court ~~shall~~ **must** be **electronically sized** to 8-1/2 by 11 inches, plainly written or printed without defacing erasures or interlineations, and ~~shall~~ **must** be double spaced, except that quotations and footnotes may be single spaced. **To the extent possible, attachments to papers must likewise be electronically sized to 8-1/2 by 11 inches.**

All motions, applications, memoranda, and judgments/orders must be typed or written in a size format that is sufficient to read without difficulty. The clerk or the court will reject any papers that do not comply.

RULE 5070-1 - CALENDARS AND SCHEDULING

5070-1 Cases to Be Tried on Date Assigned – Exceptions

All cases ~~shall~~ **will** be tried on the date set unless ~~the trial is~~ continued by order of the court.

RULE 5071-1 - CONTINUANCE

5071-1(A) Absence of Material Witness

Every motion for a continuance ~~upon the ground of~~ **based on** the absence of a material witness ~~shall~~ **must** be accompanied by ~~the an~~ affidavit of the party applying therefor, or the attorney, **that** ~~setting~~ **sets** forth the efforts made to procure attendance and the facts expected to be proved by ~~such~~ **the** witness. If the proposed testimony is set forth and it is admitted by the opposite party that the

witness, if called, would testify as set forth in the affidavit, the court may, in its discretion, deny the motion.

5071-1(B) Motions to Continue Trials

(a) ***Motion.*** Trial continuances must be sought by written motion and may be granted without a hearing. Because all trials in adversary proceedings are fixed only on an agreed date, motions to continue trials are discouraged and will only be granted when compelling reasons are shown.

(b) ***Contact with Opposing Parties or Parties in Interest.*** The motion ~~shall~~ **must** state whether opposing counsel and parties entitled to notice do or do not have an objection or, if such opposing parties have not been contacted, the reasons why contact has not been made. Because the court may deny the motion or continue the matter to a different date than that proposed, the parties should not assume that a motion to continue will be granted.

RULE 5072-1 - COURTROOM DECORUM

5072-1(A) Announcement of Representation

~~At all trials or hearings and Upon first addressing the court or taking any part in such trials or hearings,~~ **at a trial or hearing,** counsel ~~shall~~ **must** announce his/**her** name and the name of the party or parties he/**she** represents.

5072-1(B) One Counsel to Examine Witness and Present Objections

~~Except with leave of court,~~ Only one counsel for each separate interest ~~shall~~ **may** conduct the examination of any one witness or present argument or urge objections with respect to the testimony of that witness, ~~except with leave of court.~~

5072-1(C) Offer and Marking of Exhibits

Before referring to or using or offering in evidence any exhibit (whether book, paper, document, model, diagram or any other type of exhibit), counsel ~~shall~~ **must** first ~~ensure that it is marked~~ **mark it** for identification.

RULE 5073-1 - PHOTOGRAPHY, RECORDING DEVICES AND BROADCASTING

5073-1(A) Cameras in the Courtroom

The taking of photographs in the courtroom or its environs or radio or television broadcasting from the courtroom or its environs during the progress of or in connection with judicial proceedings, whether or not court is actually in session, is prohibited.

As used in these rules, the term "environs" means any place within any United States Courthouse wherein these rules apply and any public place immediately adjacent thereto.

5073-1(B) Cameras and Electronic Equipment

Unless authorized by the court, no camera, recording equipment or other type of electrical or electronic device ~~shall~~ **will** be brought into the premises. No person ~~shall~~ **may** ~~introduce~~ **bring** or attempt to ~~introduce~~ **bring** any type of camera, recording equipment or other type of electrical or electronic device into the premises without court permission.

RULE 5080-1 - FEES - GENERAL

5080-1 Payment of Fees

(a) *Time of Payment.* Filing fees for pleadings filed at the clerk's office require immediate payment. Filing fees for pleadings filed electronically from a location other than the clerk's office must be paid within two business days.

(b) *Form of Payment.*

1. *Generally.* The clerk's office accepts payment by cash and money order, and by check and credit card as set forth below.
2. *Checks.* Checks must be made payable to **CLERK, U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT.**

The clerk's office does not accept the check of a debtor in a Chapter 7 proceeding. A debtor's check may be accepted in a Chapter 11 and 13 proceeding provided that the debtor is represented by an attorney and that the attorney is not involved in a bankruptcy proceeding of his/her own.

The clerk does not accept third-party checks.

2. *Credit cards.* The clerk does not accept credit cards from debtors.

For automatic electronic payment of fees by credit card by an attorney, a credit card authorization form (available at the court's website: www.laeb.uscourts.gov) must be on file with the financial administrator of the clerk's office.

3. *Debit cards.* The clerk does not accept debit cards from anyone.

(c) *Untimely Payment.* Failure to pay timely the filing fee or other fees may result in the pleading being stricken *sua sponte*, the dismissal of the case *sua sponte*, and the loss of ECF privileges.

PART VII - ADVERSARY PROCEEDINGS

~~**RULE 7003-1 - COVER SHEET**~~

~~**7003-1 Cover Sheet**~~

~~———— A completed and executed adversary proceeding cover sheet form available from the Clerk shall accompany the initial pleading of each adversary proceeding to be filed.~~

RULE 7004-1 - SERVICE OF PROCESS

7004-1 Summons

~~———— The plaintiff(s) bears the responsibility of preparing and serving the summons in an adversary proceeding. A summons shall be prepared and directed to each defendant. Upon the filing of an adversary proceeding, counsel for the plaintiff(s) shall present an original and two copies of the summons to the Deputy Clerk for issuance. If the summons is in the proper form, the Clerk shall issue the summons and return the original and one copy to counsel for plaintiff(s). The original summons and a copy of the complaint should be served upon the defendant(s). The return copy of the summons should be filed, if necessary, to prove service upon the defendant(s).~~

The plaintiff or third-party plaintiff must notify the clerk's office of the parties to whom a summons must be issued. The clerk's office will prepare and issue the summons. The plaintiff or third-party plaintiff or their counsel is responsible for serving the summons and complaint.

RULE 7007-1 - MOTION PRACTICE (ADVERSARY PROCEEDINGS)

7007-1 Motion for Extension of Time to Plead

Upon certification by a moving party that there has been no previous extension of time to plead and that the opposing party has not filed in the record an objection to an extension of time, then ~~on~~ by an *ex parte* motion and order, the court will allow one extension for a period of 20 days from the time the pleading would otherwise be due. Further extensions will not be granted by stipulation, but only by application to the court and for good cause shown.

RULE 7016-1 - PRETRIAL PROCEDURES

7016-1 Answers/Pretrial Conferences

When all answers have been filed, a pretrial conference will be set **within the time limits set forth and** for all purposes set out in Bankruptcy Rule 7016. **This will be the only pretrial conference held unless the court orders a final pretrial conference.**

RULE 7023-1 - CLASS ACTION

7023-1 Class Action

In the rare instance in which a class action is filed in bankruptcy court, Local Rule 23.1 of the district court will apply.

RULE 7026-1 - DISCOVERY – GENERAL

7026-1(A) Discovery Motions

No motion relative to discovery, including motions for protective orders, ~~shall~~ **may** be ~~accepted for filing~~ **filed** unless accompanied by a certificate of counsel for the moving party stating that counsel have conferred ~~in person or by telephone~~ in a good faith effort to resolve amicably the issues without court intervention or stating that opposing counsel has refused to so confer after reasonable notice. Counsel for the moving party ~~shall~~ **must** arrange the conference. If the court finds that opposing counsel has willfully refused to meet and confer, or, having met, willfully refused or failed to confer in good faith, the court may impose such sanctions as it deems proper.

7026-1(H)(B) Disclosure under Bankruptcy Rule 7026

The scope and timing of disclosures under Bankruptcy Rule 7026 adopting FRCvP 26(a)(2) and FRCvP(a)(3) ~~shall~~ **will** be as directed by the court in the minute entry or order issued after the ~~preliminary conference held pursuant to Article One of the Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan of United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana~~ **pretrial conference.**

7026-1(f)(C) Meeting of Parties under Bankruptcy Rule 7026

A. Except as otherwise ordered in a particular case, the conference between the parties required by Bankruptcy Rule 7026 adopting FRCvP 26(f) ~~shall~~ **must** be held no later than seven working days before the scheduled ~~preliminary~~ **pretrial** conference.

B. Except as otherwise ordered in a particular case or as ~~indicated hereinafter~~ **provided in this rule**, the parties are excused from submitting a written report outlining the proposed discovery plan and ~~shall~~ **must** report orally on their proposed discovery plan at the Rule 16(b) conference in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 7016 adopting FRCvP 16(b). An oral report on the proposed discovery plan is not authorized when, during the Rule 26(f) conference, a party objects that the initial disclosures required by Rule 26(a)(1) are not appropriate in the circumstances of the action. In such a case, no later than three working days prior to the scheduled preliminary conference, the parties must file a written report outlining the proposed discovery plan, including the nature of the objection(s) to the initial disclosure and statements by the parties detailing their positions on the objection(s) to the initial disclosure.

RULE 7033-1 - INTERROGATORIES TO PARTIES

7033-1(A) Number of Interrogatories

Any party desiring to serve more than the 25 interrogatories permitted by Bankruptcy Rule 7033 adopting FRCvP33(a) ~~shall~~ **must** file a written motion setting forth the proposed additional interrogatories and the reasons establishing good cause for their use. Leave to serve additional interrogatories ~~shall~~ **will** be granted to the extent consistent with the principles of FRCvP 26(b)(2).

7033-1(B) Objections to Interrogatories

Objections to interrogatories, and objections to the answers to them ~~there to~~, ~~shall~~ **must** set forth in full, immediately preceding each answer or objection, the interrogatory or answer to which objection is being made.

RULE 7036-1 - REQUESTS FOR ADMISSION

7036-1 Objections to Requests for Admission

Objections to requests for admission, and objections to the answers to them ~~responses thereto~~, ~~shall~~ **must** set forth in full, immediately preceding each answer or ~~objection~~ **response**, the request or ~~answer~~ **response** to which objection is being made.

RULE 7041-1 - DISMISSAL OF ADVERSARY PROCEEDINGS

7041-1(A) Dismissal for Failure to Prosecute

In adversary proceedings, if no responsive pleadings or motion for entry of default have been filed within 60 days after issuance of the summons, an order to show cause will be issued to counsel for the plaintiff(s) to show why the adversary proceeding should not be dismissed for lack of prosecution. The order setting the date and time for the scheduled show cause hearing will be served on counsel for plaintiff(s), allowing at least a 20 day notice.

Unless good cause is shown prior to or at the scheduled hearing, the adversary proceeding ~~may~~ **will** be dismissed.

7041-1(B) Dismissal of Objections to Discharge

A motion for the voluntary dismissal of a complaint containing an objection to a debtor's discharge pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 727 or a stipulation between the parties for the dismissal of such a complaint ~~shall~~ **must** be served upon the United States trustee and the trustee and, unless otherwise ordered by the court, all creditors and other parties in interest, and ~~shall~~ **must** be scheduled for hearing.

The motion or stipulation and notice thereof ~~shall~~ **must** contain a recital concerning the consideration, if any, for the dismissal or the terms and conditions of any agreement concerning the dismissal and notice of the right of all interested parties to object or to continue prosecution.

RULE 7054-1 - COSTS – TAXATION/PAYMENT

7054-1(A) Memorandum of Costs

Within 30 days after receiving notice of entry of judgment, unless otherwise ordered by the court, the party in whose favor judgment is rendered and who claims ~~and is allowed~~ costs ~~shall~~ **must** serve on the attorney for the adverse party and file with the clerk a notice of application to have the costs taxed, together with a memorandum signed by the attorney of record stating that the items are correct and that the costs have been necessarily incurred.

7054-1(B) Hearings

The party applying for taxation of costs ~~shall~~ **must** notice the matter for hearing before the clerk.

RULE 7056-1 - SUMMARY JUDGMENT

7056-1(A) Motions for Summary Judgment

Every motion for summary judgment ~~shall~~ **must** be accompanied by a separate, short and concise statement of the material facts as to which the moving party contends there is no genuine issue to be tried. The statement ~~shall~~ **should not** repeat the pleadings, or contain argument or conclusions. **All material facts in the statement will be deemed admitted for purposes of the motion unless controverted under the following rule.**

7056-1(B) Oppositions to Summary Judgment

~~Each copy of the papers opposing~~ **The opposition to** a motion for summary judgment ~~shall~~ **must** include a separate, short and concise statement of the material facts as to which there exists a genuine issue to be tried. ~~All material facts set forth in the statement required to be served by the~~

~~moving party will be deemed admitted for purposes of the motion, unless controverted as required by this rule.~~

RULE 7062-1 - STAY OF PROCEEDINGS TO ENFORCE A JUDGMENT

7062-1 Supersedeas Bonds

A supersedeas bond staying execution of a money judgment ~~shall~~ **must** be in the amount of the judgment plus 20% of the amount to cover interest, costs, and any award of damages for delay, unless the court directs otherwise.

RULE 7067-1 - REGISTRY FUND

7067-1(A) Receipt and Deposit of Registry Funds

Funds received in the registry of the court will be deposited ~~by the clerk with this~~ **the** court's designated depository ~~into~~ an interest bearing account at ordinary passbook rates.

If the principal sum deposited is ~~not less than~~ **at least** \$10,000, ~~a judge of this~~ **the** court may, upon motion of an interested party, instruct the clerk to withdraw all or a portion of the funds deposited and to reinvest the ~~same~~ **funds** in some form of interest bearing account for a higher return of interest.

7067-1(B) Form of Order

A proposed order to invest registry funds ~~shall~~ **must include the following:**

- (1) ~~specify~~ the amount to be invested,
 - (2) ~~and~~ the type of investment,
 - (3) ~~and~~ that it ~~shall~~ **will** be made at the prevailing rate of interest,
 - (4) ~~it shall~~ **the** name **of** the institution, if other than the court's designated depository,
- and**
- (5) ~~and it shall state~~ the length of time the funds are to be invested and whether the investment is to be automatically rolled over at maturity.

The order ~~shall~~ **must** be consented to by all parties who might ultimately be determined to be entitled to the funds ~~and who might be adversely affected by any provision such as a possible penalty for early withdrawal of the funds.~~

All proposed orders pertaining to the investment of registry funds must be first presented to the clerk to assure that the proposed order complies with the United States Treasury regulations governing deposit of registry funds. No ~~such~~ order ~~shall~~ **may** be presented to a judge of this court without the clerk's certificate of compliance.

All signed orders involving registry funds must be provided to the financial deputy clerk. In addition, the failure to deliver ~~All signed orders signed by a judge directing that registry funds be invested other than in the court's savings account~~ **to the financial deputy clerk** ~~must be delivered by counsel to the clerk personally or the chief deputy or, in the absence of both, to the deputy-in-charge of a divisional office or financial administrator. Delivery to another deputy is not sufficient. Failure to effect such personal delivery shall relieve~~ **s** the clerk of any personal liability relative to compliance with the order. ~~It shall further be is the responsibility of the moving party to verify that the provisions of the order are accurate and have been carried out.~~

Unless otherwise specifically provided by order of ~~a judge of this~~ **the** court, the ultimate beneficiary(**ies**) ~~or beneficiaries~~ of any appreciation resulting from investing in interest bearing accounts ~~shall~~ **will** be ~~that~~ **the** person(**s**) ~~or those persons~~ ultimately found to be entitled to receive the principal ~~thereof.~~

7067-1(C) Motions to Disbursement of Registry Funds

Funds ~~shall~~ **will** be disbursed from the registry of the court only upon order of ~~a judge of this~~ **the** court. ~~It shall be is the responsibility of counsel filing a motion for disbursement to satisfy the court of the recipient's entitlement to the funds sought to be disbursed.~~

A motion for disbursement of registry funds ~~shall~~ **must** be submitted to the financial deputy clerk for certification of the principal amount of the funds held in the registry in a particular case; before the motion is presented to the judge.

A motion for disbursement of registry funds ~~shall~~ **must include the following:**

- (1) ~~set forth~~ the principal sum initially deposited,
- (2) the amount of principal funds to be disbursed,
- (3) to whom the disbursement is to be made,

~~complete mailing instructions, and~~

- (4) specific instructions regarding distribution of accrued interest; **and**

(5) ~~If~~ **if** more than one check is to be issued on a single order, the portion of principal due each payee ~~must be~~ stated separately. ~~Counsel must also provide the Social Security number or Tax I.D. number for each payee and complete mailing or deliver instructions for each payee.~~ **[This thought moved below.]**

Each motion ~~shall~~ **must** be accompanied by a proposed order ~~which shall~~ **that** contains substantially the following language: "The Clerk **of Court** is authorized and directed to draw a check(s) on the funds on deposit in the registry of ~~this~~ **the** court in the principal amount of \$____, plus all interest earned, less the assessment fee for the administration of funds (*or state other instruction regarding interest*), payable to (*name and address of payee*), and to mail or deliver the check(s) to (*payee or attorney*) at (*full address with zip code*)."

7067-1(D) Disbursement of Registry Funds

On all checks drawn by the clerk on registry funds, the name of the payee ~~shall~~ **must** be written as that name appears in the court's order providing for disbursement. Counsel must also provide the Social Security number or Tax I.D. number for each payee and complete mailing or

delivery instructions for each payee. **The Social Security number must be submitted to the financial deputy clerk, and should not be filed into the record.**

~~The clerk will issue disbursements as soon after receipt of the order for disbursement as the business of the clerk's office allows, except when it is necessary to allow time for a check or draft to clear or when otherwise directed by the court.~~ **Unless otherwise ordered, the clerk will issue disbursements as soon after receipt of the order as the regular business practices of the clerk's office permits, but not before the 10 day appeal period has run.** ~~It shall be~~ **is** the responsibility of the moving party to verify that the funds have been paid within a reasonable time.

PART VIII - APPEALS TO DISTRICT COURT

RULE 8001-1 - APPEALS

8001-1 Motions Seeking Relief from a District Judge

~~Motions filed seeking~~ **that seek** relief from a district judge, including ~~motions under 28 U.S.C. 157(d) (for withdrawal of reference), 28 U.S.C. 157(c)(1) (objections to proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law) and Bankruptcy Rule 8005 (for stay pending appeal)~~ shall be governed by the ~~rules set out below.~~ **motions for withdrawal of the reference (28 U.S.C. § 157(d)), motions for leave to appeal (Bankr. R. 8003), motions for stay pending appeal (Bankr. R. 8005), and objections to proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law, are governed by the following rules.**

(a) Original Motion

1. ~~*Applicable Rules.* The local rules for the district court shall be applicable apply to all motions filed in bankruptcy cases or proceedings seeking relief from a district judge. In those instances where the Bankruptcy Rules require a report from the bankruptcy judge, e.g., Bankruptcy Rules 5011(b) and 9027(c), the local bankruptcy rules shall apply until such report is issued.~~

2. *Place of Filing.* All motions described in this section above ~~shall~~ **must** be filed with the clerk of the bankruptcy court.

32. *Contents of Motion.* In addition to the ~~normal~~ **usual** requirements ~~of~~ **for** papers filed in the bankruptcy court, motions described in this section ~~above shall~~ **must** include:

- a. A clear and conspicuous statement opposite the title of the action that "RELIEF IS SOUGHT FROM A UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE";
- b. A designation of the portions of the record of the proceedings in the bankruptcy court that will reasonably be necessary or pertinent for consideration of the motion by the district court; and
- c. A list showing each party with an interest in the motion and, for each party shown, their attorney, along with ~~such~~ **the** attorney's mailing address.

53. *Duties of the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court.* Upon **the** filing of an original motion, ~~as set forth above,~~ the clerk of the bankruptcy court ~~shall~~ **will** promptly transmit to the clerk of the district court:

- a. The original motion and all attachments to the motion; and
- b. The portion of the bankruptcy court record designated in accordance with Subsection ~~(3)(b)~~ **(2)(b)** above.

4. *Subsequent Filings.* Any filing **made** ~~in a matter under this section subsequent to~~ **after** the "Original Motion" set forth ~~above shall~~ **must** be filed with the clerk of the district court and ~~shall~~ **must** comply with all rules of ~~such~~ **the** district court.

(b) No Automatic Stay. ~~There shall be~~ No automatic stay of **the** bankruptcy court proceedings **will occur** as a result of the filing of any motion under ~~the above~~ **this rule**. Any stay of proceedings will result only from an order of the bankruptcy court or the district court.

(c) Obligation of the Parties. It ~~shall be~~ **is** the obligation of each and every party and their attorney to apprise the bankruptcy court and the district court of orders entered in either forum ~~which~~ **that** significantly affect matters pending in ~~either~~ **the other** forum.

RULE 8007-1 - TRANSMISSION OF RECORD – APPEAL

8007-1 Record Transmitted to the District Court

The authority to retain any portion of the record on appeal or in connection with a motion seeking relief from a district judge is delegated to the clerk of the bankruptcy court. ~~If any portion of a record is retained in the bankruptcy court, a certified copy of such the record shall will be transmitted to the district court. If the district court requests the retained papers, the clerk of the bankruptcy court shall will transmit them forthwith.~~

———In the event that papers are retained in the bankruptcy court and certified copies are transmitted to the district court, the bankruptcy court may order the party upon whose instance the papers were required to reimburse the clerk of the bankruptcy court for the cost of making the copies.

PART IX - GENERAL PROVISIONS

RULE 9011-1 - ATTORNEYS – DUTIES

9011-1 Signing of Pleadings, Motions and Other Papers

Every pleading, motion, or other paper ~~presented~~ **prepared by an attorney** for filing ~~shall~~ **must**, in accordance with the Bankruptcy Rules, be signed personally by counsel in his/**her** individual name. In addition, counsel's name, mailing **and** street addresses, telephone number, and attorney identification number ~~shall~~ **must** be typed or printed under his **the** signature. If the attorney is admitted to the bar by the Supreme Court of Louisiana, the attorney identification number ~~shall be~~ **is** the same as the number assigned by the Supreme Court of Louisiana. ~~Otherwise, the attorney identification number shall will be the number assigned by the clerk of the district court.~~ **Otherwise, the attorney should list the identification number of the state where the attorney is admitted to practice.**

Documents filed by a party not represented by counsel ~~shall~~ **must** be signed by the party. The party's name, mailing **and** street addresses, and telephone number ~~shall~~ **must** be typed or clearly printed.

Each attorney and pro se litigant has a continuing obligation to apprise the court of any ~~address change~~ **of address or telephone number until the case is closed.**

RULE 9011-4 - SIGNATURES

9011-4 Signature on Documents; Retention of Original Documents

(a) *Signatures on Documents.* Documents requiring the signature of the debtor(s), such as petitions, lists, schedules, statements, etc., must be filed electronically and must indicate a signature (e.g., “/s/ John Doe”).

Amendments, pleadings, affidavits, and other documents that contain original signatures or that require verification under Bankruptcy Rule 1008 or an unsworn declaration as provided in 28 U.S.C. 1746 must be filed electronically, and must indicate a signature (e.g., “/s/ John Doe”).

(b) *Retaining Original Documents.* The original signed document must be retained by the attorney of record or the party originating the document for a period of not less than one year after the case is closed. Upon request, the original document must be provided to other parties or the court for review.

RULE 9013-1 - MOTION PRACTICE

9013-1(A) Motion Day

Each judge may designate a specific day of the week as motion day, ~~which shall~~ **that will** be the day on which that judge holds hearings on all motions, applications, and other forms of routine relief, except: disclosure statements, plan confirmations, ~~Chapter 13 matters~~ and motions requiring oral testimony expected to last more than one hour. All motions and applications ~~shall~~ **must** be set and noticed for hearing on motion day, **unless a special hearing date is fixed by separate court order.** ~~Matters not heard on motion day will be specially fixed by separate court order as provided below.~~ Before scheduling a motion or application for hearing on a motion day, counsel should confirm with the office of the clerk that hearings will be held on that day

Generally, oral argument will only be held when an objection to a motion is filed. However, even if no written objection is filed, an appearance may be necessary for certain types of motions as designated by the judge of each section.

~~Any party desiring oral argument must file contemporaneously with the filing of the motion or opposition memorandum a separate statement setting forth the reasons why oral argument should be heard. Notwithstanding the filing of a statement regarding oral argument, oral argument on motions will be allowed only when a judge of a section of this court, at least two days before the~~

~~motion is set to be heard or decided, notifies the parties involved that oral argument is desired. Except as set out heretofore, all other motions will be decided by the court on the basis of the record, including timely filed briefs and any supporting or opposing documents filed therewith.~~

9013-1(B) Setting Motions for Hearing

(a) *Motions in Writing.* All motions (except those made during a hearing or trial), applications and requests for an order from the court must be made in writing and ~~shall~~ **must** be filed with the clerk. Motions will not be accepted by telephone or facsimile.

(b) *Twenty-Day Notice.* ~~Counsel~~ **A party** filing a motion ~~shall~~ **must**, at the time of filing, set the motion for hearing no earlier than the first motion day ~~which~~ **that** is at least 20 days after the motion is noticed for hearing, except as otherwise specifically provided by the Bankruptcy Rules, ordered by the court or agreed to by all parties entitled to notice. In case of a motion under Section 362(d) of the Bankruptcy Code, if there is no motion day more than 20 days after notice, but less than 30 days after filing, the hearing ~~shall~~ **will** be set on the last motion day that is not more than 30 days after the motion is filed.

(c) *Notice of Hearing.* Either prior to or contemporaneously with the filing of a motion, ~~counsel for movant~~ **shall** **must** serve a copy of the motion and notice of the hearing on opposing counsel/parties, as well as any other parties required by the Bankruptcy Rules.

(d) *Notices to Creditors.* If a notice to all creditors is required by the Bankruptcy Rules, it ~~shall~~ **must** set forth: (1) the title of the motion or other form of relief requested; (2) the name of the movant; (3) the name, address and telephone number of counsel for movant; (4) the relief requested by the movant, concisely described; (5) the date, time and place of the hearing; and (6) that any party opposing the motion or other relief requested must file a written objection or response with the clerk ~~by 5:00 p.m.~~ no later than eight calendar days **prior** to the scheduled hearing and must serve the

attorney for the movant by that date. If an opposition or response is not timely filed and served as set forth below, the court may grant the relief requested without hearing.

(e) ***Matters Not Heard on Motion Day.*** Disclosure statements, Chapter 11 plan confirmations, and motions requiring oral testimony expected to last more than one hour ~~shall~~ **must** be specially set on a day other than the regular motion day. An order to set for hearing leaving the date and time blank ~~shall~~ **must** be filed with all such motions.

(f) ***Motions for Expedited Hearing.*** Motions for expedited hearing are discouraged. In those rare cases when an expedited hearing is necessary, counsel for movant ~~shall~~ **must** file a motion requesting an earlier date and stating that opposing counsel or parties otherwise entitled to notice have consented to the motion. If agreement of opposing counsel or such parties cannot be obtained, counsel may file an *ex parte* motion for expedited hearing with reasons setting forth the need for an expedited hearing and a statement that opposing counsel or parties otherwise entitled to notice have been contacted and refuse to consent to the expedited hearing and the reasons for the refusal, if known, or the reasons why such contact is impractical. **Counsel who file an *ex parte* motion for expedited hearing must serve that motion on all parties in interest on the date of filing. [Moved from Rule 9013-3].**

9013-1(C) Calendar

The clerk ~~shall~~ **will** prepare and post a calendar listing the matters to be heard on each motion day. Motions ~~shall~~ **will** generally be heard in the following order: (1) motions that are unopposed or by consent; (2) motions to lift stay; and (3) other motions and/or applications.

Motions that require witness testimony will be heard last. If witness testimony will be offered on a motion set on the regular motion day, it is counsel's responsibility to notify the court ~~prior to commencement of argument on the motion~~ **by noon on the Monday preceding the motion day.**

9013-1(D) *Ex Parte* or Consent Motions

A motion, allowed by applicable law to be submitted *ex parte* or by consent, need not be noticed for hearing as described above, but ~~shall~~ **must** instead be accompanied by a proposed order. Except as otherwise ordered, every such motion or application ~~shall~~ **must** be submitted to the court through the clerk and ~~shall~~ **must** state that counsel for all parties with standing to oppose have consented to the motion. If good cause is shown in the motion, no hearing is required on the following motions, unless otherwise directed by the court: (1) for extension of time; (2) to continue a pretrial conference or hearing; (3) to amend pleadings; (4) to file supplemental pleadings; (5) to intervene; ~~and~~ (6) to **appoint or** withdraw as counsel; **and (7) to appoint other professionals.**

9013-1(E) Motions to Intervene, Amend Pleadings or File Third-Party Complaints

Prior to filing any motion for leave to intervene, to amend pleadings or to file a third-party complaint, the moving party ~~shall~~ **must** attempt to obtain consent for the filing and granting of such motion from all parties having an interest to oppose. If ~~such~~ consent is obtained, the motion ~~shall~~ **need** not be noticed for hearing, ~~but thereafter shall~~ **should** be filed, accompanied by a proposed order, with a statement of the consent of opposing counsel. No such motions, when required to be noticed for hearing, ~~shall~~ **will** be accepted for filing unless accompanied by a certificate of counsel for the moving party to the effect that opposing counsel have refused to consent to the filing and granting of such motion. If the court finds that opposing counsel does not have a good faith reason for ~~failing~~ **refusing** to ~~so~~ consent, the court may impose such sanctions as it deems proper.

RULE 9013-2 - BRIEFS AND MEMORANDA OF LAW

9013-2(A) Memoranda Supporting Motions

The moving party must submit ~~points and~~ authorities in support of a motion, which may be either incorporated in the motion or set forth in a separate memorandum served on opposing counsel and filed contemporaneously with the motion.

9013-2(B) Objections and Response/Opposition Memoranda

Each party opposing a motion ~~shall~~ **must** file, ~~in duplicate, a memorandum of the~~ **its** reasons advanced in opposition to **for opposing** the motion, including the authorities upon which the opponent relies or copies of these authorities no later than eight calendar days prior to the noticed hearing date and ~~shall~~ **must** at the same time serve a copy thereof on the opposing parties.

A copy of the ~~memorandum will be delivered to~~ **opposition must be served on** opposing counsel in the same fashion in which delivery to the court is made **and at the same time as filed with the court.**

~~A reply memorandum by the mover may be filed up to noon one day prior to the hearing. If a reply memorandum is filed by the movant, it must be filed and chambers must be notified no later than 24 hours before the hearing.~~ No further memoranda may be filed except with leave of court. ~~first obtained.~~

RULE 9013-3 - CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE – MOTIONS

9013-3 Certificate of Service

A certificate of service of a motion and ~~the~~ **a** notice of hearing ~~shall~~ **must** be filed with the motion. The certificate must include the names and addresses of the parties served, ~~and~~ the date of service of the notice of hearing and of the motion, and **any** other papers ~~(in cases where service of the motion and other papers is required)~~ **required to be served.** A certificate stating that service has been effected on "all interested parties" or "all parties of record" or any other such general

designation is **insufficient**. ~~Counsel who file an *ex parte* motion for expedited hearing shall serve that motion on all parties in interest on the date of filing.~~ [Move last sentence to Rule 9013-1(B)(f)].

RULE 9015-1 - JURY TRIALS

9015-1 Jury Trials

Jury trials are not held in this court.

RULE 9016-1 - SUBPOENAS

9016-1(A) Witness Fees and Mileage

~~It shall be the duty of The person provoking the issuance of any~~ **issuing a** subpoena for a witness ~~to cause to be~~ **must** tendered to the witness, at the time of service of the subpoena upon the witness, one day's attendance fee and the legal amount for mileage to and from the place of trial or hearing, as set forth in 28 U.S.C. 1821, and ~~further to cause to be paid~~ **must also pay** concurrently to any such witness, the daily attendance fee for each day he/she is required to attend ~~said~~ **the** trial or hearing. No witness ~~shall~~ **will** be liable to attachment for not obeying the subpoena if this rule has not been complied with. This rule does not apply to witnesses for the United States.

9016-1(B) Notification of Witnesses

It is the duty of counsel who has ~~provoked the issuance of~~ **issued** a subpoena to notify the person subpoenaed if his attendance will not be required in time to prevent the witness from making a needless trip. Counsel failing to comply with this rule may be subject to appropriate sanctions.

RULE 9019-1 - SETTLEMENTS AND AGREED ORDERS

9019-1(A) Responsibility for Settlement Discussions

As officers of the court, counsel have a responsibility to conduct serious settlement discussions in time to avoid unnecessary expense **and the waste of time by attorneys, witnesses, and the court.**

9019-1(B) Notice of Settlement

~~Whenever~~ a case is settled or otherwise disposed of, counsel ~~shall~~ **must** immediately ~~inform~~ **notify** the ~~judge~~ **court** and all persons subpoenaed as witnesses. ~~If a case is settled as to fewer than all of the parties or all of the claims, counsel shall also set forth the remaining parties and unsettled claims.~~ **If the settlement is not a full settlement as to all parties and all claims, counsel must also notify the court as to the remaining parties and unsettled claims.**

RULE 9019-2 - ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

9019-2 Alternative Dispute Resolution ("ADR")

If the ~~presiding bankruptcy judge~~ **court** determines at any time that the case will benefit from alternative dispute resolution, the ~~bankruptcy judge shall~~ **court**:

- (a) ~~have~~ **has** discretion to refer the case to private mediation, if the parties consent, even if such mediation efforts upset previously set trial or other dates;
- (b) ~~have~~ **has** discretion to request the ~~Chief Judge of the District Court~~ **judicial officer** of the ~~District~~ with or without the parties' consent; or
- (c) **may** employ other ADR programs ~~which~~ **that** may be designated for use in this district by the district court.

RULE 9025-1 - SECURITY: PROCEEDINGS AGAINST SURETIES

9025-1(A) ~~Qualifications of Sureties~~ Bonds

Every bond furnished in this court must have as surety either: (1) a cash deposit equal to the amount of the bond, (2) an obligation of the United States Government, or (3) a corporation authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States to act as surety on official bonds, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9303-9309, except that a bond for costs may instead have as surety an individual resident of the district who satisfies the clerk that he owns real or personal property within the district sufficient to justify the full amount of the suretyship.

Only by stipulation of the parties or by order of the court may some other form of surety be permitted.

9025-1(B) Court Officers Not to Be Sureties

No clerk, marshal, member of the bar or other officer of this court will be accepted as surety on any bond or undertaking in any action or proceeding in this court.

RULE 9070-1 - EXHIBITS

9070-1(A) Exhibits Attached to Pleadings

All exhibits and other attachments capable of being electronically imaged should be scanned except in those instances where the exhibit or attachment is more than 20 pages. Those over 20 pages must be identified by title and a brief description, and only the relevant portions should be electronically imaged and filed using Portable Document Format (PDF). Upon request, the complete original document must be provided to other parties or the court for review.

Only those exhibits attached to pleadings that are not capable of being electronically imaged (i.e., “scanned”) may be filed in hard copy with a notice of electronic filing to indicate the referenced document.

9070-1(A)(B) Exhibits at Trials or Hearings

(a) Custody. Exhibits offered into evidence must be submitted in hard copy. ~~After being received in evidence, all exhibits shall~~ All exhibits admitted into evidence will be placed in the custody of the clerk, unless otherwise ordered by the court.

(b) Disposition. All exhibits in the custody of the clerk ~~shall~~ must be removed within 30 days of the final disposition of the case ~~and/or~~ adversary proceeding. The party offering exhibits ~~shall be~~ is responsible for their removal and ~~shall~~ must give a detailed receipt for the clerk's records. If the parties or their attorneys fail or refuse to remove exhibits within 30 days, the exhibits may be destroyed or otherwise disposed of by the clerk.